

PATENT SPECIFICATION

382,471

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in Pocket-Books, Portfolios, Boxes, Handbags and the like.

I, HENRI BENIT, of 54, Rue La Boetie, Paris, France, a citizen of the French Republic, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

Certain articles such as pocket books, portfolios, envelopes or files intended to hold bank notes for example after a certain amount of use have an annoying tendency to open. This tendency may result in the loss of the documents in the pocket book or portfolio. Moreover, when such articles are held in the hand the corners have a tendency to curl and may be damaged. These disadvantages have been avoided in the case of a pocket book by arranging around the book a band of elastic which may be separate or not from the pocket book but this band finally loses its elasticity and does not improve the appearance of the book if it is separate therefrom.

The present invention has for its object to keep the articles to which it is applied automatically closed, while permitting them to be opened instantaneously without manipulation of any kind.

It consists principally in fitting or suitably disposing on or in a convenient part of the article to be held closed a magnet and its armature or several magnets suitably directed so that the mutual attraction of their opposite poles (the north and south poles of the magnets and of the secondary poles of their armatures) maintains closed the articles to which the invention is applied.

Another feature consists in this that the magnets are made of blade springs of highly magnetic steel, for example tungsten steel or cobalt steel which is very thin and very flexible and of a form adapted to the purpose for which they are intended. Another feature consists in arranging the magnets or the magnets and their armatures in such manner that their mutual attraction is a maximum and their preservation perfect.

It has been proposed to make boxes of metal and to provide in the box a magnet serving to hold down the lid which acts

as an armature. The present invention is applicable to articles of any material and may be applied to books, pocket books, envelopes, files, boxes, portfolios, handbags and the like.

In the accompanying drawings illustrating the invention Fig. 1 shows an arrangement which may be adopted when the pocket books are very thin and consequently the air gap is small. Figs. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 show various arrangements which are preferable when the pocket books are thicker and in which the air gap is reduced by means of a return angle member with the magnet.

As shown in Fig. 2 the north and south ends of the magnets are in contact or almost in contact.

In the arrangement shown in Fig. 3 the north and south ends overlap.

In the arrangement shown in Figs. 4 and 5 the ends fit together and are of a suitable shape.

In Fig. 6 the ends are shown bevelled.

Fig. 7 shows a magnet attached to a book cover with laterally projecting teeth 7' and holes, if deemed necessary, to permit of perfect engagement of the magnets in the cover. Two sheets of cardboard cut to the form of a magnet and of suitable thickness are gummed on the cover at each side of the magnet and serve to prevent undesired movement of the latter.

Fig. 8 shows the arrangement of several magnets in the same cover whereby to increase the closing force for example in a file or envelope, having a thin cover.

Fig. 9 shows a box, the lid and the body of which each are shown as fitted with suitably disposed magnets, the magnet of the body being curved so as to take the shape of the body.

The magnets may be varnished, nickelled, chromium-plated, gilded, etc. if desired to prevent oxidation.

The magnets may be of any suitable form but preferably are of a form giving the maximum magnetic moment, without departure from the invention; there may be provided any suitable locking device supplementing magnetic closure.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. A closing device for pocket books, portfolios, boxes, handbags and the like, characterised in that there are arranged on or within the articles referred to a magnet and its armature or a number of magnets suitably arranged so that the article is maintained in closed condition magnetically solely by the mutual attraction of their opposite poles.

2. A device as claimed in claim 1, characterised in this that the magnets utilized are formed by blade springs of highly magnetic steel very thin and very flexible adapted to the form of the articles in which they are fitted or secured.

Dated this 5th day of January, 1932.
CRUIKSHANK & FAIRWEATHER,
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W.C.2, and
29, Saint Vincent Place, Glasgow,
Agents for the Applicant.

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[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.]

Fig. 1

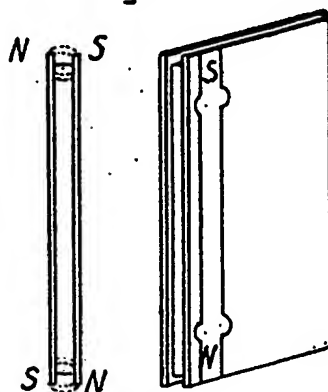


Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

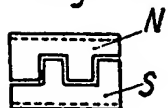


Fig. 5

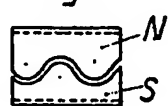


Fig. 6

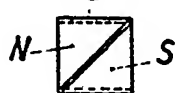


Fig. 7

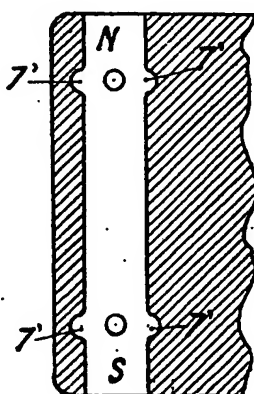


Fig. 8

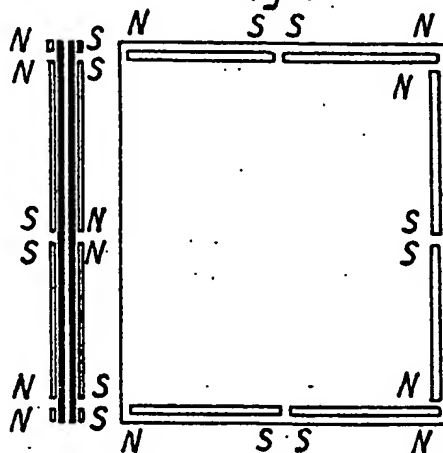
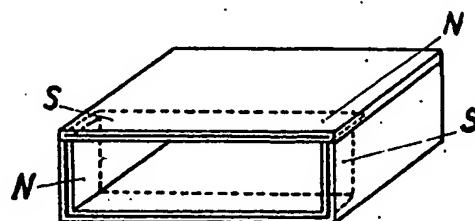


Fig. 9



Malby & Sons, Photo-Litho